

March 18, 1975

can find \$75,000 or \$90,000, there may be other funds down there they might have squirreled away some where.

SENATOR BARNETT: I think you got a good point.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Can you tell me exactly, Senator Barnett, how much money they are able to transfer?

SENATOR BARNETT: I think it was in the area of investments around \$90,000.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Where does this money come from?

SENATOR BARNETT: I think it's Federal money, Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: You think it's Federal money.

SENATOR BARNETT: I'm not positive, but I'm almost . . . I'm almost certain it's Federal money. Highway safety money is Federal money.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Was it placed there for a purpose?

SENATOR BARNETT: Well I'm not . . . you'd have to ask somebody whether they lump-sum or earmark to that Division. I don't know.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Was any program robbed to get this money for this second program?

SENATOR BARNETT: They must have otherwise they wouldn't have had any money left over.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Then, in effect, some program is not going to be funded if this transfer is made. Is that right?

SENATOR BARNETT: That I can't answer. I, again . . . did I understand Senator Schmit. Your questions are real good. I think they need to be asked on a lot of programs. This afternoon, as I understand it, in Appropriations Committee this Division of state government will have a public hearing. I guess the Department of Motor Vehicles, as I understand, is up for a public hearing this afternoon. I'll bet some of these questions can be asked then.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Pardon me Senator Barnett, you're using up my time. I'd like to make just one more comment.

SENATOR BARNETT: You asked me a question.

SENATOR SCHMIT: You're so noisy in the answers. Mr. Sullivan's a very competent administrator. I believe that the proper place for this is for Mr. Sullivan to go before the Budget Committee, explain his situation, and his needs, explain what funds he has, and how they are presently handled, what he intends to do with the funds that we're talking about. If the Budget Committee decides that he needs this, why that's a very simple process. The Budget Committee will be most gracious with him. I would oppose this system of funding this program, as I opposed it in the committee. I think, as Senator Nichol has pointed out and Senator Luedtke, this is not the proper system. If we ever allow funds that have been dedicated to one program to be transferred to another, without the approval of this body, and I've been guilty of it from time to time.